

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 009267

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QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 009267

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, CGEN, CVIS, ETRN

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH EAST GERMAN DCM

REF: A.) BERLIN 5029 B.) BERLIN 5025

BEGIN SUMMARY: EAST GERMAN DCM CALLED ON EUR/CE
DIRECTOR JANUARY 12 TO DISCUSS GDR'S CONTINUED INTEREST
IN FTO'S AND TRADE OFFICE, AND VISIT OF ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HARTMAN TO GDR. ELM ALSO TRANSMITTED NOTE AND
"WORKING PAPER" PROPOSING DISCUSSIONS ON PORT ACCESS
QUESTIONS. EUR/CE DIRECTOR PROPOSED THIRD ROUND OF
CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS BE HELD THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY
AND ALSO RAISED GDR'S REFUSAL TO ISSUE VISA IN RACHEL
BISHOP'S DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT, VERONIKA PROTSCH HUMANITAR-
IAN CASE AND SEVERAL OTHER MATTERS. END SUMMARY.

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1. CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS: DURING CALL BY EAST GERMAN

DCM ELM, EUR/CE DIRECTOR ANDERSON PROPOSED NEXT ROUND OF CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS BE HELD IN WASHINGTON THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY OR THE FIRST WEEK IN MARCH. ELM PROMISED TO OBTAIN QUICK GDR RESPONSE.

2. RACHEL BISHOP VISA: ANDERSON EXPLAINED THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW THAT IT IS UP TO US TO DECIDE UPON THE PROPER TERMINOLOGY TO BE USED IN A US PASSPORT AND THAT IT HAS BEEN STANDARD PRACTICE TO EMPLOY THE TERM "GERMANY" IN THE PASSPORTS OF ALL US CITIZENS BORN IN EITHER PART OF GERMANY. THEREFORE, THE DEPARTMENT CAN NOT SIMPLY CHANGE A PASSPORT TO ACCOMODATE THE DESIRES OF THE GDR NOR DO WE WISH TO ACCEPT A VISA ISSUED SEPARATELY FROM THE PASSPORT, AS IN THE CASE OF RACHEL BISHOP. ANDERSON SAID THAT WE HOPE THAT THE GDR WILL NOT MAKE AN ISSUE OF PRINCIPLE OUT OF THIS CASE AND REQUESTED THAT THE MFA ISSUE A VISA IN MISS BISHOP'S PASSPORT. ELM REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THIS SPECIFIC CASE, BUT UNDERSTOOD QUITE WELL THE ISSUE INVOLVED. HE AGREED WITH ANDERSON THAT IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE WERE THIS PROBLEM TO BECOME A MAJOR ISSUE, BUT NOTED THAT THE GDR'S POSITION IS BASED ON PRINCIPLE AND IT IS NOT LIKELY TO BE CHANGED. DEPARTMENT WILL AWAIT THE MFA'S RESPONSE TO THE EMBASSY'S LATEST APPROACH BEFORE CONSIDERING FURTHER STEPS.

3. HUMANITARIAN CASES: ANDERSON EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR THE SPEEDY RESOLUTION OF THE LOTT VISA CASE AND NOTED THAT WE HOPE TO SEE MANY MORE HUMANITARIAN CASES RESOLVED SOON, ESPECIALLY THAT OF MRS. VERONIKA PROTSCH AND SON. ELM REPLIED THAT THE GDR WOULD BE MOVING TO SETTLE A NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING CASES SOON.

4. TELEPRINTER FOR EMBASSY BERLIN: NOTING THAT THE GDR EMBASSY WOULD BE RECEIVING PERMISSION TO OPERATE A RADIO TRANSMITTER AT ITS EMBASSY VERY SOON, ANDERSON RAISED EMBASSY BERLIN'S REQUEST FOR TELEPRINTER LINK WITH US MISSION. ELM SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF THIS PROBLEM, BUT HIS OWN VIEW WAS THAT IT PROBABLY COULD BE RESOLVED EASILY.

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5. NEXT STEPS WITH THE GDR: ANDERSON SAID THE DEPARTMENT IS STUDYING THE PROPOSALS MADE BY DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BEIL DURING HIS RECENT VISIT AND HOPED WE WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THESE PROPOSALS SOON.

6. ELM EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S AND THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING FOR THE BEIL VISIT, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS VERY USEFUL. ALTHOUGH THE GDR

REALIZES THAT CERTAIN "OBSTACLES" TO EXPANDED BILATERAL TRADE WILL NOT DISAPPEAR IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE GDR WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR GREATER TRADE WITH THE US.

7. HARTMAN VISIT TO THE GDR: ELM ASKED WHEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN PLANS TO VISIT THE GDR AND REPEATED GRUENERT'S INVITATION THAT THE TWO MEET AT THAT TIME. ANDERSON SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY IS INTERESTED IN VISITING THE GDR, NO TIME HAD BEEN SET FOR A VISIT.

8. TRADE OFFICES AND PORT ACCESS: ELM PRESSED FOR AN EARLY US RESPONSE TO THE GDR'S REQUEST THAT IT BE PERMITTED TO OPEN FTO REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICES AND A COMMERCIAL OFFICE IN NEW YORK. HE ALSO REPEATED THE GDR'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN ENGAGING IN TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS ON FISHING QUESTIONS AND IN OBTAINING ACCESS TO US PORTS FOR GDR SHIPS. HE THEN PRESENTED A NOTE TOGETHER WITH A "WORKING PAPER" PROPOSING BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON REGULATING PORT ACCESS PROCEDURES AND THE EVENTUAL NEGOTIATION OF A MARITIME AGREEMENT. TEXT OF NOTE AND ATTACHMENT WILL BE POUCHED TO EMBASSY.

9. GDR EMBASSY HAS SINCE INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT GDR DELEGATION TO CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS AGREES TO MARCH MEETING. KLOBES AND HIS DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE IN THE US FEBRUARY 28. KISSINGER
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